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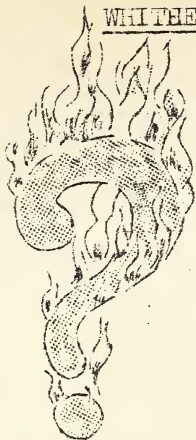
# THE TARHEEL WASHPOT

January 30



U. S. Extension Service  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

## WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING



As we enter the portals of a New Year, let us pause and think together on the general subject of "Conservation." Let us take inventory of our resources and consider the question, "Whither are we drifting?"

Within the memory of some now living our natural resources were practically untouched. Coal, petroleum, wild game, all seemed to abound in quantities apparently inexhaustible. But their memory embraces a period of tremendous industrial and agricultural development - an exploration and an exploitation of these vast natural resources. Today, although a nation still young in years, the indictment rings in our ears that more oil has been wasted in this country than has been used; that more timber has been destroyed by forest fires than has been cut for lumber; that many of our species of wildlife have become almost extinct. We do not bury the past - we absorb it. It is part of us - our inheritance, good or bad. The forbears' blood pulses thru the arteries of the newborn child. With this thought in mind, let us consider this question: "Whither are we drifting as we begin this New Year?"

Consider our greatest natural resource - the soil! We must face the fact that on gent-

ly sloping land erosion, if unchecked, will frequently remove as much soil in one year as Nature was able to build in a half century. We must face the fact that the average yield of corn and wheat in this State has been at a standstill during the past twenty years, despite the ever-increasing use of commercial fertilizers and the gradual improvement in cultural methods. We must face the fact also that North Carolina uses more commercial fertilizer than any other State in the Union - over 1,000,000 tons annually, valued at \$30,000,000. Yet the value of the fertilizing elements washed away from the farms of this State every year amounts to over \$60,000,000.

Some five or six generations ago when our forefathers ventured into the Piedmont, they found it a wilderness. By sheer strength of character, will power and physical force they conquered this wilderness. For those early pioneers we have a profound admiration.

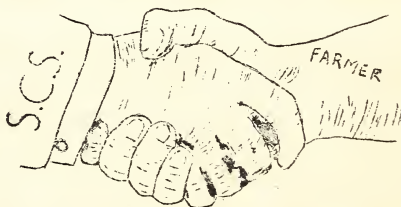
The farmer of today is no less a pioneer. A new area is suddenly thrust upon him. As the axe conquered the wilderness 150 years ago, so can a planned agriculture conquer the wilderness of doubt and discouragement that confronts the farmer of today.

Conservation - what does it mean? Does it not mean good stewardship? Does it not mean the proper appraisal and, if need be, the recreation of economic, social and spiritual values? The checking of human gravitation? The transformation of areas

where ignorance and poverty prevail, to areas of enlightenment, fruitfulness, and the resultant higher standards of living? Gathering "up the fragments so that nothing be lost" - that is conservation. Harnessing the undisciplined energies of youth for human progress -- that is conservation. Maintaining the crop-producing values of the land while wresting a living therefrom - that is conservation. To conserve means to use, but to use wisely, taking from the bounteous storehouse of Nature that which is essential to our own well-being, but leaving a worth-while legacy for posterity.

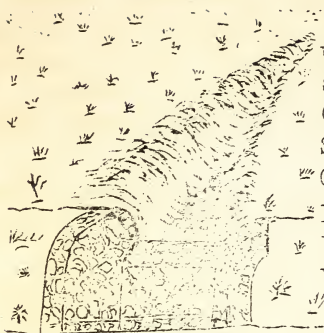
Whither are we drifting? I have no fears for North Carolina - if we will but face the future with a courage and a confidence characteristic of our people. Nor will we merely drift. We will think, plan, work, cooperate, and thus conserve those resources temporarily entrusted to our care, to the end that the beauty, and the charm, and the productivity of this wonderful Piedmont country might be preserved.

E. T. Erickson  
State Administrator  
ECW Division of SCS





## SCS ACTIVITIES EXPAND



Erosion surveys of watersheds lying above six reservoirs in North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia are included in plans to expand activities of the Soil Conservation Service.

According to H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Service, the purpose of these surveys is to find out how serious the soil erosion problem really is in the six reservoirs so that the data collected can be scientifically correlated with facts previously gathered by the Service regarding the extent and rate of silting in the particular reservoirs.

In North Carolina, the survey will cover the watershed area lying above the High Rock reservoir, an area of approximately 4,750 square miles, including all or parts of Surry, Wilkes, Rowan, Iredell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Yadkin, Stokes, Randolph, Catawba, Caldwell, Alexander, Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Cabarrus and Guilford counties; also Carroll, Patrick and Grayson counties in Virginia. Included in this area is a watershed of 4 square miles lying above Lake Concord, and the survey to be made is to determine the extent of soil erosion with the extent and rate of sedimentation in the lake.

Two other surveys will be started in North Carolina; one will cover approximate-

ly 170 square miles in parts of Person, Orange and Durham counties in the watershed area lying above Lake Michie; the other will cover approximately 27 square miles in portions of Orange and Chatham counties in the watershed area above University Lake.

G. A. Crabb, of the Soil Conservation Service, temporarily will be in charge of the surveys in the four southeastern states. Headquarters for work in North Carolina and Virginia have been established at Winston-Salem. It is expected that approximately 25 men will be assigned to the survey work in North Carolina and Virginia, and a similar number in South Carolina and Georgia.

"Completion of the surveys," says Mr. Bennett, "Will give to the Service authoritative information on the direct relationship of soil erosion to costly reservoir silting. It may be possible to show how the soil washed from a farm several miles from a reservoir directly contributes to the expensive sedimentation of that reservoir."

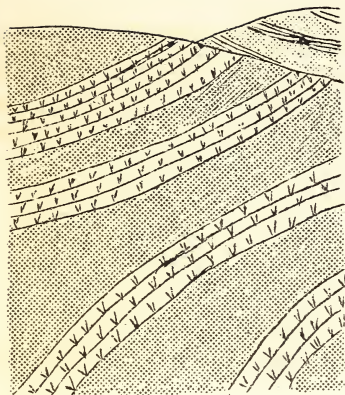
Some parts of the work may be complete by June 1936, according to Glenn L. Fuller, under whose general supervision the surveys are being made.

- High Point Enterprise -





## PROGRESS REPORT



Up to January 1, 1936, cooperative agreements were made with farmers on 2,648 farms in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, which includes the SCS demonstration projects and the 22 ECW camp areas. The agreements cover more than 283,277 acres, of which 100,283 acres were in cultivation under methods which have prevailed for generations before these contracts were entered into.

Over 321,409 acres have been completed by the detailed erosion survey, and 180,384 acres need erosion-control treatment. It was agreed that 8,189 acres would be retired from cultivation, and 5,048 acres have been retired. Acreage to be retired to permanent hay and pasture was approximately 6,941 acres - to forest 2,612 acres (899 retired) - and 198 acres of pasture land also retired to forest.

Forty-four acres only had been strip-cropped prior to commencement of SCS practices in the Piedmont region, but since the SCS program began farmer agreements to newly strip-crop cover 20,664 acres and on 5,977 acres strip-cropping programs have been carried out.

Up to January 1, over 78,900 acres were

under contract for the carrying on of a contour tillage program, and work has been actually done on 26,354 acres.

Approximately 10,000 acres within the region covered by SCS-ECW has been terraced before the inauguration of the erosion-control program. At the present time agreements call for new terraces or reterracing on more than 70,709 acres; 2,390 miles of terraces have been constructed protecting 29,962 acres; 7,325 permanent terrace outlet structures completed; 11,645 temporary terrace outlet structures; 2,129,932 square yards of terrace outlets seeded and sodded, and 922,797 linear feet of terrace outlet channels completed.

For the carrying out of proper crop rotation programs 75,184 acres have been placed under contract, and proper rotation newly followed on 29,582 acres. Practically no contour-furrow work had been done throughout the Piedmont region, but at the present time agreements for this work cover more than 974 acres and work has been actually done in excess of 88 acres.

Extensive gully control work is covered in the last report, and up to January 1, 13,-861 temporary dams had been constructed; 193 permanent dams; 443,741 square yards of bank sloping; 109,146 linear feet of diversion ditches completed; 70,074 cubic yards of fills in earth dams made; 13,595 linear feet of water spreading dykes constructed, and the drainage area of gullies controlled covers approximately 13,710 acres.

By the forestry department approximately 1,677 acres of new tree planting had been done, and more than 588 acres of gully planting. Planting for bank protection covered 400,626 square yards. Man-days involved in all tree and shrub planting were 8,927. In the matter of seed collections, 99,334 lbs. of hardwoods had been made and 6,545 bushels of conifers. Man-days involved in nursery and plant collection aggregated 17,804.

Under the classification of "Forest Management" 30,858 acres are under the direct supervision of the forestry department; timber has been cruised and tabulated as to forest types on more than 1,060 acres; improvement-cutting done on 1,923 acres in the 317 demonstration plots.

Landowners to the number of 1,035 are cooperating with the wildlife department for game conservation.

Man-days involved in fire control up to January 1 are 312 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

In the department of education it is reported 413 requests were received for lectures; 101 radio talks given and 416 lectures delivered by members of the Soil Conservation Service staff. The number of photographs taken and developed in connection with SCS work is given as 2,309, and 66,304 news letters have been sent out to cooperators and others interested in the Soil Conservation Service.

## THAT WOOD BE STEAK



How much wood was in the beefsteak that you had for dinner last night? Listen to the story of the butchered beef.



A calf was born on a western ranch. The ranch was enclosed by a fence supported by wood posts. The cow-

punchers who rounded up the cattle rode on saddles, the leather of which was tanned with acid derived from wood. The branding iron, with a wooden handle, was heated in a fire kindled with wood.

The calf partly fed and watered from a wooden trough, grew to marketable size. He was rounded up in a wooden corral, ushered up a wooden incline, into a wooden box car, and transported to the packing house on steel rails (processed by charcoal), supported by wooden cross-ties.

At the slaughter house, the steer was stunned by a blow from a wooden mallet, skinned with a wooden-handled knife, and his carcass was carried on a wooden tram to be refrigerated in a room insulated with wood (from the cork tree).

The quarter of beef arrived at your local meat store. The lady of the house ordered her steak, using a telephone, the

mouthpiece and receiver of which came from the rubber tree, the message being transmitted over charcoal-treated copper wires, supported by wooden telephone poles. The butcher noted the order with a wooden pencil, on paper made from wood-pulp, cut the steak on a wood chop-block with a wood-handled cleaver, standing on a wood floor, covered with saw-dust. He pinned the steak together with a wooden skew, and delivered it in a wood-paneled delivery truck.

You got out of a wooden bed this morning, slipped into your shoes that were polished with turpentine derived from the pine tree, put on your rayon necktie made from wood fibres, stoked the furnace with coal which was wood a million years ago, relished your hot cakes with syrup tapped from the maple tree, then "plugged" away at a wooden office desk, and played a few holes of golf using a "driver" of carefully-selected and seasoned wood, just to get up an appetite. You were then all set for your steak.

Served on an American walnut wooden table, seasoned with pepper from the African pepper tree, and supplemented by good, strong "java" from the Brazilian coffee tree, it was really a "wooden" steak. After the repast you were in good shape to spread out on your wooden easy-chair, and read your wooden newspaper before the fire-place of crackling logs. You filled your wooden pipe with tobacco that was heat-cured with wood, which was aged in wooden hogs-heads. Taking your tobacco from a package wrapped in wood-derived cellophane, you lighted your pipe with a wooden match and between puffs, pick your teeth with a wooden tooth pick!

"Wood" you believe it?

C.H.F.



## WINTER AND SOILS

We are quite familiar with the injury to crops caused by severe cold weather, but have probably never realized that this same severe freezing damages some of our soils. Throughout the Piedmont region one frequently notices odd ice formation on exposed road cuts or in ditch banks, or on bare spots in fields. The peculiar finger-like crystals have apparently grown at right angles to the surface.

Locally this freezing phenomenon is called "ground ice" or "jack frost." It is a modified form of soil heaving, and takes place where the moisture content is high. With us this type of frost action is confined principally to heavy clay soils, and is especially noticeable on "galled spots" of tilled fields, in gullies, or on road cuts. Occasionally a loam or clay loam will show some heaving, but this occurs only where the heavier clay is immediately below the surface. The three conditions essential to the formation of ground ice are, therefore, heavy-textured soils, moisture, and absence of cover. Clay soils retain more moisture than loams or sandy loams. In the smaller pore spaces water freezes more readily, and capillary (upward) movement is much stronger. A good vegetative cover prevents formation of ground-ice.

The question has arisen: "What ill effects are caused by repeated frost (ground ice) action?" The answer: Severe sheet erosion on gullied areas and in cultivated fields of clay soils; gravitational erosion on deep gullies, road cuts, and ditch banks. On open



fields and the smoother parts of gullied areas, the heavy clays are thoroughly pulverized to a depth of 1 to 3 inches by the action of the ice crystals. Upon thawing, this layer dries quickly. The resultant condition is an inch or two of incoherent, loose powder-like soil resting upon an almost impervious clay. When rain falls, this loose material practically melts away with surface run-off, and another inch or two of good topsoil is lost from the field. On the sides of deep gullies, or road cuts, or ditch banks, the loosened clay material tumbles down on thawing. When a warm day follows a sharp freeze, as much as two inches of this loosened material may roll downward. This accumulated debris in the bottom of gullies or ditches is carried away by the first outflow of water following a heavy rain. Much cutting-back and caving in is caused by this repeated process. Where there is sufficient seepage to supply moisture to the lower clay subsoil, ground-ice action continues and severe cave-ins may sometimes carry the banks back several feet each year.

Control measures, such as planting or seeding on gullies, road cuts, and other severely eroded areas, are often greatly retarded by frost action, with resultant continued loss of soil material. In grain fields "galled spots" often continue to heave and lose surface material because plant roots are destroyed by repeated lifting. Heavy mulching with stable manure or other litter will check serious damage and enable planted trees or seeded grasses and grains to obtain a secure root-hold and keep the soil in place.



## EDITORIALS

THE TARHEEL WASHOFF

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE, SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
NORTH CAROLINA AREA

FEDERAL BUILDING - High Point, N. C.  
STATE COORDINATOR - Dr. J. H. Stallings  
EDITOR - Forney A. Rankin

Vol. II

January 1936

No. 4

### EROSION CONTROL PROBLEM

Erosion control does not involve anything new or startling. No one can wave a magic wand and keep muddy water from running down hill. Vegetation, with special reference to thick-growing crops, form the basis of an effective plan of erosion control. True, terracing and other mechanical methods are important; but, contrary to popular belief, terracing in itself will not control erosion. Two million acres of washed away terraced land in Georgia bear ample testimony to this fact.

E.F.

## STRIP-CROPPING ON HILLSIDES

Though farmers in the Deep River area (High Point) were at the outset of Soil Conservation Service activities reluctant to accept strip-cropping, as well as some other measures of conserving soil, to date enough farmers have tried it to make a total of approximately 3000 acres strip-cropped. They have found the practice to be very effective in controlling erosion and practical to use in their farm operations. Many who used it in one field last year are now arranging to strip-crop several fields.

At this time the farmer has an excellent opportunity to further help in conserving his land by strip-cropping the land row in lespedeza and hay fields. All that is needed is to plow up a strip of the lespedeza or clover and plant to corn or other row crops, leaving a similar strip of the lespedeza sod unbroken between the corn land. Where the lespedeza fields are terraced, break a land by beginning on top of every other terrace and extending to approximately midway of terrace intervals on each side. Then leave the lespedeza strip unbroken in alternate strips as-tride terraces between corn strips. Broad strips may be placed between, as well as as-tride terraces; but this is not as effective in controlling erosion.

On fields of lespedeza or clover mixture that have not been terraced contour lines can be laid out and strips arranged with the lines as same as the method outlined for terraces. This plan will cause the strips to be

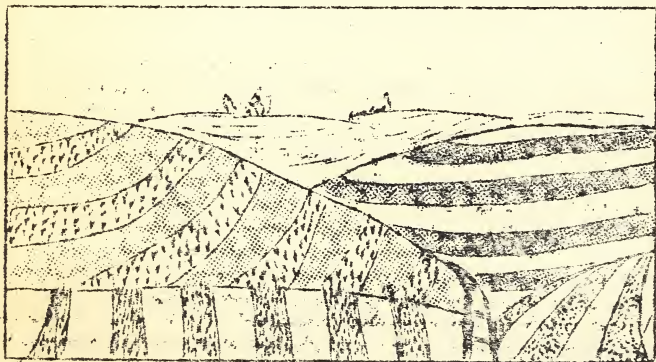
approximately the width of terrace intervals. The crop rotation planned for your farm can be carried on by rotating the crop by these strips rather than by fields. As an example, the strips for corn this year would be in lespedeza in 1937 and the strips now in lespedeza would be in corn in 1937. A 2-year, 3-year or 4-year rotation may be carried out on this plan of rotating crops by strips. To start and carry on a system of strip-cropping as above described would not entail an additional expense. This plan will protect your terraces and assist in controlling erosion where the land is terraced. Where the land is not terraced, strip-cropping will help hold the soil on the land.

On many farms there are several small fields adjoining each other which have practically the same cropping schedule. For a more soil-conserving program, these fields should be combined and crops rotated in broad strips on the contour across them. It is possible that each of these broad strips would be equal in size to some of the small fields before the combination was made. Sometime, in combining fields, the terraces or contour lines would cross different fields where different crops grew the previous year. In such cases, some adjustment of cropping would need to be made. The strip of close-growing crops may have had corn on one end and lespedeza on the other, which would necessitate the seeding of lespedeza on one end. Also corn would be after lespedeza in one section of strip and possibly row crops in other section. After the first year the crops would follow in order. This

plan will make a wonderful improvement for the farm as a means of holding and building the soil.

If conditions made it impractical to rotate crops in broad strips, then the narrow strip would be used. These strips can be made permanent and crops rotated between it could be used only when row crops come in the rotation. This type may be used with or without terraces. The lespedeza and clover fields would be excellent places to start strips of this kind this spring. The strip for corn could be broken and the narrow strip of lespedeza left between the corn strip.

The main principle of any type of strip-cropping is to grow strips of close-growing, erosion-resisting crops between strips of row crops on the contours of the hillside. Strip-cropping can also be started this spring in fields that did not have lespedeza or clover growing on it. The lespedeza or other close-growing crops can be seeded in the alternate strips between similar strips to be planted in corn or other row crops.





## TIMELY TIPS FOR COOPERATORS

1. Get out your agreement and study it carefully. Locate each field for cultivation this year. Become familiar with the rotation for each field. Make notes of anything not clear to you; also changes you desire. Discuss these with the field man when he visits you or drop him a card asking him to come by your farm.
2. While land is too wet to plow, mulch bare and badly-eroded areas in your pasture, gullies, lespedeza, fields and fields sown to hay mixture. The mulch will conserve moisture, add humus and help you secure a sod on these areas. Farm manure, damaged hay, straw, weeds or grass are good mulching material. Reseed these areas in late February or early March.
3. Break lespedeza and other sod land as soon as possible for spring planting. This will absorb and conserve more moisture for the succeeding crop. Early plowing assures thorough rotting of vegetation before planting time and makes seedbed preparation easier.
4. Be sure to get the land prepared. Lime should be applied and be ready to seed hay, pasture and clover mixtures by early March. Don't forget the manure or fertilizer on these mixtures if you want a good sod.

Does your cropping plan call for strip-cropping? The field man in your area will be glad to help you plan strip-cropping



for this year. Strip-cropping is much more effective in controlling erosion than solid field planting. Read what Mr. Veasey says about strip-cropping.

5. Clean the lespedeza seed you saved last fall, or make arrangements for securing your seed now. Many of your neighbors who saved seed may have some for sale.
6. Lespedeza sod may be "gophered" and disked and seeded to spring oats where land is to remain in lespedeza this summer. Do not turn the lespedeza, as this destroys the seed and will require reseeding. Spring oats will control more erosion than corn and can be fed to your livestock, thus enabling you to reduce your corn acreage.
7. Now is a good time to build up the low places in your terraces and smooth up the flow line. A few hours with the shovel now will save days of work if the terraces are allowed to cut over. "A terrace is no stronger than its weakest spot."
8. Do you have any food patches for your Bob-white quail and other game? There are many good places about your farm for these patches. The wildlife department will be glad to work with you.
9. Cut your wood so as to improve your timber stand and not destroy it. Broken, diseased, stunted trees and undesirable tree species should be used for wood and the strong, vigorous desirable species should be left standing. The foresters will show you how to improve your timber stand. Tree seedlings of desirable species may be planted in the thin or bare areas of the forest. C.C.A.

## LESPEDeza

Time to plant -- February and March.

Amount to acre -- 40 pounds.

Seedbed preparation -- On old field and bare land disc lightly; on small grain no preparation is necessary. Late in season grain land should be scratched with drag hand.

Fertilizing -- On average land fertilizer isn't necessary. However, some farmers have increased their yield materially by using 200 pounds of complete fertilizer on acre mixed with the seed and drilled in.

Liming -- Liming is not necessary for this crop, but a greater yield of lespedeza can be obtained by applying lime at the rate of from 1 to 2 tons an acre.

Inoculation -- Not necessary.

Begin to pasture -- Don't pasture fields. On waste lands or regular pasture land begin pasturing not before July 1.

Plow under -- During winter where a crop like cotton or corn is to follow.

Cut for hay -- In August so seed will be produced for reseeding. In full bloom if seed are not desired for reseed.

Harvest the seed -- Common, Tennessee 76, and Kobe just after first killing frost; Korean when seed turns brown about October 1.

Uses in preventing erosion -- Strip cropping, rotations, abandoned and pasture land, planting gully check dams and gully rims.

Remarks -- Common lespedeza is the best all-round variety for gully control and pastures. The Kobe variety is regarded best for general field use.

## DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDLINGS AND SHRUBS



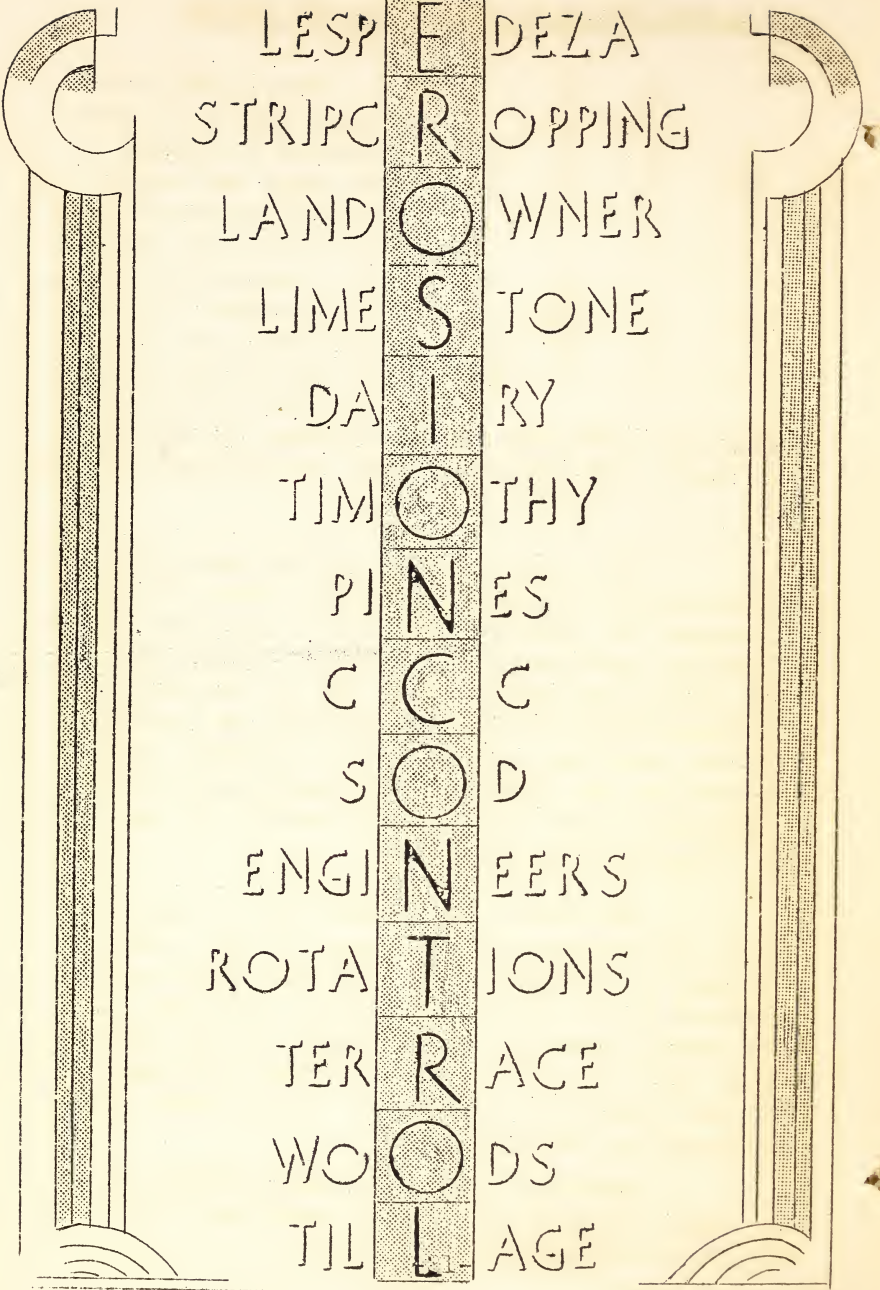
Over 9,530,160 plants are to be distributed to twenty ECW camps and eight Soil Conservation Service areas for planting in abandoned land, areas retired from cultivation by the Soil Conservation Service and in gullies.

There are 8,737,493 tree seedlings, 97,472 highway shrubs and 695,200 shrubs for wildlife planting.

The seedlings and shrubs were grown in six nurseries in North Carolina. Four of these are under the Nursery Division of the Soil Conservation Service at Statesville, Wadesboro, High Point and Friendship. One is the North Carolina State Forest Tree Nursery at Clayton, and the remaining nursery is at Hoffman, being operated by the Resettlement Administration in cooperation with the Nursery section of the Soil Conservation Service.

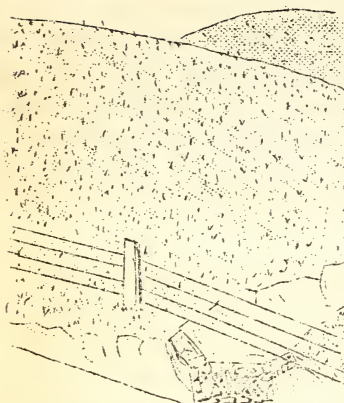
The trees and shrubs will be used to plant approximately 1522 acres of land under contract by the ECW Camps and 2276 acres under contract by the Soil Conservation Service. A few special species are included on the list, which will be used to plant demonstrational highway beautification plots on the eight Soil Conservation Service areas.

Loblolly pine and black locust are the most numerous species of seedlings that are to be distributed.



LESP	E	DEZA
STRIPC	R	OPPING
LAND	O	WNER
LIME	S	TONE
DA	I	RY
TIM	O	THY
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ENGI	N	EERS
ROTA	T	IONS
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WO	O	DS
TIL	L	AGE

## PASTURE IMPROVEMENT



That there is an obvious need for improved pasturage in North Carolina no one can doubt. A look at your gul-  
lied hillsides, now being used as pasture lands, will convince even the casual ob-  
server that such a condi-  
tion should not exist. The  
retirement of "worn-out"  
land from cultivation and  
the improvement in pasture  
lands, a boon to the development of the cattle  
culture in North Carolina, is an important phase  
of the work of the Soil Conservation Service.

Aside from being one of the most effec-  
tive means of controlling erosion, good pas-  
ture is the most profitable source of feed for  
livestock. Pasture land loses less fertility,  
soil and water than other agricultural lands.  
If pasture grazing is managed well, theoretic-  
ally speaking, the soil should lose only the  
fertilizing constituent contained in the car-  
cass or in the milk that they produce.

In the Miscellaneous Publication #194,  
Department of Agriculture, we find that in pro-  
ducing 100 pounds of beef per acre annually ap-  
proximately 3 pounds of nitrogen, 0.94 pounds  
of phosphorus, and 0.17 pounds of potassium are  
taken from the soil and are retained in the  
carcass.



Estimating that only one half of the manure is turned to benefit the pasture, there is an additional loss of 12 pounds of nitrogen, 0.87 lbs. of phosphorus, and 9.96 lbs of potassium. If about 35 percent of the pasturage is legumes, the nitrogen content of the soil, under ordinary conditions, would be maintained. To maintain the phosphorus and potash in the soil by applying superphosphate and muriate of potash once in 10 years, it would cost \$6.60 per acre or 66¢ per year at 1932 prices.

According to R. Warrington (Chemistry of the Farm PP64-65) a 30 bushel yield of corn would remove 43 lbs. of nitrogen, 7.85 lbs. of phosphorus and 30.13 lbs. of potassium.

To produce the 43 bushels of corn it would require approximately 81 lbs. of plant nutrients, or three times as much plant nutrients as for an acre of pasture.

Good pasture appears to be a perfect feed for all herbivorous animals, except those doing hard work, giving very large quantities of milk or being fattened rapidly.

Legumes in pasture mixtures help to maintain the nitrogen content of the soil and reduces the need for nitrogen fertilizer.

Mixtures result in a more uniform stand and higher production due to soil differences and moisture conditions.

Mixtures provide a longer and more uniform seasonal production, due to the different stages of growth and maturity of the plants.

Mixture of grasses and legumes provide a better balanced ration.

Information regarding pasture establishment or improvement may secure this information by calling at the Agronomy Department, Soil Conservation Service. J.M.P.



## WILDLIFE AND PROPER LAND USAGE



**IDLE LAND BRINGS**  
NO revenue and pays no taxes! Why not put all our acres to profitable use? Instead of making the productive areas support the unproductive ones, why not use the land in such a way that every area will yield a profitable return? It can be done!

All idle patches on the farm can with very little effort and expense be put to advantageous use by planting close-growing vegetation, shrubs and vines, which will not only control erosion but will also afford valuable food and cover for various forms of wildlife. Besides, the farm environment can be greatly improved by healing gullied and galled spots on the farm.

A considerable revenue should be derived from the conservation and development of wildlife. Although the economic gain is among the first in importance, there is something real and worthwhile in the aesthetic benefits of wildlife. A covey of quail, a number of song birds, some squirrels, or a family of opossums all add greatly to making the farm a more delightful place on which to live.

The joy and pleasure derived from a successful hunting or fishing trip can seldom be duplicated in any other field of sport. That the hunting problem is a major consideration in the recreational world of today is more than substantiated by examining reports of the staggering sums of money expended annually for guns, ammunition and hunting licenses. The figure is well in the millions and is on a continual increase yearly.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has conservatively estimated several million dollars as the value of the work done by insectivorous birds annually in destroying insects. This applies only to the damage done to our agricultural crops and makes no mention of damage to trees in our wood lots.

The Soil Conservation Service cannot afford to overlook these many gains that a program of wildlife conservation can offer the farmers. They cannot overlook the facts which show that if we are to have any desirable wildlife in the future, they must establish food and cover for the numerous desirable species. They cannot be blind to the fact that upon their vegetative erosion control measures depends the future of wildlife in the region. Without proper food and cover, we can expect no game; without the proper dispersion and interrelationship of food and cover, we can expect no game. Food without cover is useless, and vice versa. It can readily be seen that unless expert consideration is given this topic, erosion control practices can be made not only useless

as far as improving the farm environment is concerned, but is also detrimental.

Modern methods of farming are constantly making "living conditions" less favorable for our game species. The idea of "clean-cut" farming - that is cultivating all the land possible and cleaning up hedgerows and bushy growths has greatly reduced our wildlife population. Some of our forestry practices too, are detrimental to wildlife in general. There has been, in the past, altogether too much cutting of hollow trees, persimmons, dogwoods and others that were formerly considered as weed trees. The Soil Conservation Service is striving at present to not only discourage such practices, but at the same time to incorporate in its work program measures to rectify the wrongs already done.





UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Soil Conservation Service  
High Point, N. C.  
Official Business

Penalty for Private Use  
To Avoid Payment of  
Postage, \$500